IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND Northern Division

JEFFREY F. and DONNA LAWRENCE

Plaintiffs,

V.

THE "IMAGINE...!" YACHT, LLC, et al. :

Defendants.

THE "IMAGINE...!" YACHT, LLC, et al. :

Third Party Plaintiffs,

V.

SHER & BLACKWELL, LLP

Third Party Defendants.

C.A. NO. MJG02-CV-3224

THIRD PARTY DEFENDANT SHER & BLACKWELL, LLP'S ANSWER TO THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT OF THE "IMAGINE...!" YACHT, LLC

Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP, by counsel, Mesirow & Stravitz, PLLC in answer to The "Imagine...!" Yacht, LLC's Third Party Complaint ("Third Party Complaint"), states as follows:

- 1. The allegations in paragraph 1 of the Third Party Complaint are conclusions of law and need not be answered.
- 2. The allegation in paragraph 2 of the Third Party Complaint is a conclusion of law and need not be answered.

- 3. Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP is without knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Third Party Complaint.
- 4. Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP admits the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Third Party Complaint.
 - 5. No response required.
- 6. Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP admits that it signed a Charter Agreement for the voyage in question, but denies the remainder of the allegation contained in paragraph 6 of the Third Party Complaint.
- 7. Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP denies the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Third Party Complaint.
- 8. Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP denies the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the Third Party Complaint.
- 9. All allegations contained in the Third Party Complaint not specifically admitted are hereby denied.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 10. The Third Party Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
- 11. The Plaintiffs' injuries were caused by the acts and/or omissions of Latitude 38, LLC, The "Imagine...!" Yacht, LLC, and/or Annapolis Bay Charters, LLC.
- 12. Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP is not liable due to intervening and/or superceding causes.

WHEREFORE Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP prays that this Honorable Court dismiss the Third Party Complaint with prejudice and award Third Party Defendant Sher

& Blackwell, LLP its attorney's fees in defending this action, its costs, and such other relief as is just.

Respectfully submitted,

MESIROW & STRAVITZ, PLLC

By:

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Counsel for Third Party Defendant Sher &

Blackwell, LLP

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I hereby certify that I am a member in good standing of the Maryland State Bar and that I am admitted to practice law in the State of Maryland and before this Honorable Court.

Eric N. Stravitz

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 2nd day of May, 2003, a copy of the foregoing Third Party Defendant Sher & Blackwell, LLP's Answer to The "Imagine...!" Yacht, LLC's Third Party Complaint was transmitted via electronic case filing only to:

> Robert H. Bouse, Jr., Esq. Anderson, Coe & King, LLP 201 N. Charles Street Suite 200 Baltimore, MD 21201-4135 Attorneys for The "Imagine...!" Yacht, LLC

> > David W. Skeen, Esq. Wright, Constable & Skeen, LLP

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Eric N. Stravitz